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Title: Need to expedite construction of new railway lines from Tindivanam to Nagari and Tiruvannamalai.

SHRI M. KRISHNASSWAMY (ARANI): I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the need for expediting the work for the new railway lines from Tindivanam to Nagari and also from Tindivanam to Tiruvannamalai which were announced in 2006-07 by the then Railway Minister.

The route of Tindivanam to Nagari, a distance of 180-kms., would pass through Vandavasi, Cheyyar, Arcot, Pallipattu, districts in Tamil Nadu to reach Nagari station on the Arakkonam-Renigunta section in Chittoor District in Andhra Pradesh. For this Rs.180 crore was allotted to take up the survey works in this route. This new route, which passes through Arani, will also help in the development of the silk industry in Arani and also export.

The second route is from Tindivanam to Tiruvannamalai. The idea is to provide a connectivity from Pondicherry to Bengaluru (72 kms.) which would benefit people in Coastal and Northern Tamil Nadu to connect to Bengaluru & beyond. Railways, no doubt, will save funds and also easily provide faster connectivity via Gingee town. Already, around Rs.70 crore was allotted for survey in this route.

At present, land acquisition work is going on at a snail's speed. There is administrative delay in the process. The two river projects on Palar River and Cheyyar river come on these routes. Stones have been laid at the Palar river and bridges constructed whereas in the Cheyyar river the concerned authorities have not started the bridge construction and the pace of work is very slow.

In this area, there is no land acquisition process in the river. Only in Vellore and Villupuram, the land acquisition is very much slow. To sort out this problem, railway authorities should approach the Revenue Authority of State Government of Tamil Nadu to expedite the matter so that projects will be completed and commissioned as early as possible.

Hence, I request the Hon'ble Minister for Railways to kindly intervene in the matter to take necessary steps to expedite the above said two new railway lines in the interest of the general public.